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TRANSMITTAL OF COPY OF INTERNATIONAL
APPLICATION AS PUBLISHED OR REPUBLISHED

To:

FAHMI, Tarek
12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

NO DOCKETING REQUIRED
N.A

Date of mailing (day/month/year)
30 June 2005 (30.06.2005)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
6317P097PCT

STATUS DB-LA

IMPORTANT NOTICE

International application No.
PCT/US2004/041884

International filing date (day/month/year)
10 December 2004 (10.12.2004)

Priority date (day/month/year)
10 December 2003 (10.12.2003)

Applicant

APPLIED MATERIALS ISRAEL, LTD. et al

The International Bureau transmits herewith the following documents:

☒ copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 30 June 2005 (30.06.2005) under No. WO 2005/059531

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34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Simin Baharlou

Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35

Facsimile No.+41 22 338 71 30

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
30 June 2005 (30.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/059531 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G01N 21/956**,
G01B 11/24, H01L 21/66, G03F 7/20, G06T 7/00, G01N
23/22

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/041884

(22) International Filing Date:
10 December 2004 (10.12.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/528,630 10 December 2003 (10.12.2003) US

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BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CY, CZ,
DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX,

MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD,
SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, SZ, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG,
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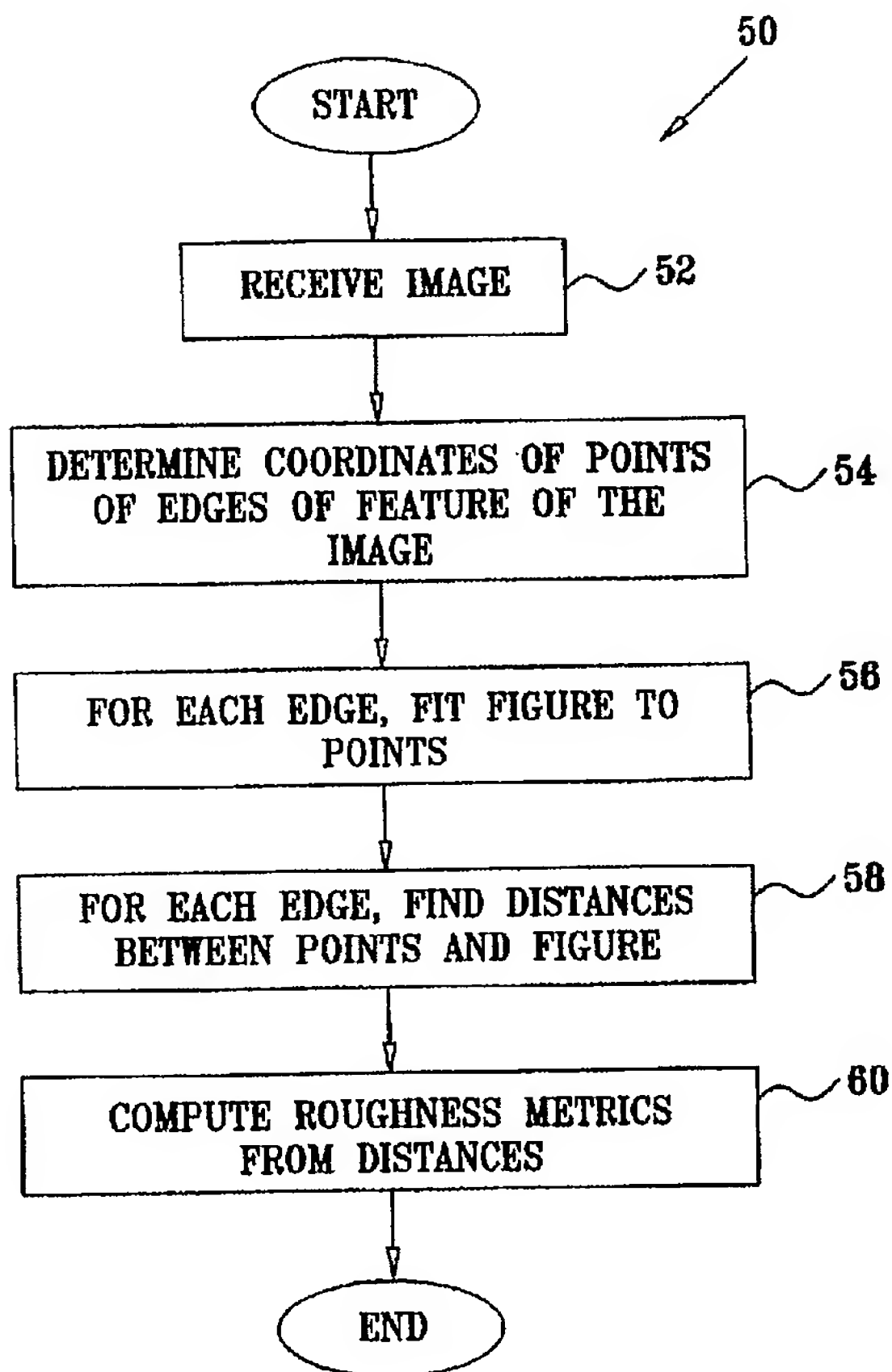
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ADVANCED ROUGHNESS METROLOGY



(57) Abstract: A method for evaluating a feature, consisting of re-
ceiving an image of the feature and determining respective coordi-
nates of a plurality of points on an edge of the feature in the image. A
figure having a non-circular non-linear shape is fitted to the plural-
ity of points, and respective distances between the plurality of points
and the figure are determined. A roughness parameter for the fea-
ture is computed in response to the respective distances. The method
finds application in the analysis of critical dimensions (CD) of in-
tegrated circuits and, particularly, in the measurement of the edge
roughness of their features and components as imaged by means of
eg. The electron scanning microscopy (SEM).

WO 2005/059531 A1



AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) **Designated States** (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SI, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,

FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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